

Come to a meeting!

Our meetings are in Warren at the St Pius K of C. The K of C hall is located at 6177 Chicago Rd. between Van Dyke and Mound Rd where Thirteen Mile and Chicago Rd intersect. Our meetings are on the last Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the evening.



President: Jason Adam
Vice President: Bob Jones
Treasurer: Steve Hamilton
Secretary: Bob Feisel

2006 Boat Trolling Tournaments

Date/ Port (Port Captain)
5/6 St. Joseph (Al Wiechert)

5/20, 5/21 Grand Haven
2-day (Bob Jones)

6/3 South Haven (Jason Adam)

6/17 Special People (Doug Karakas)

6/24 Port Austin
Team Doubles (Blaise Pewinski)

7/22 Frankfort (Bob Fiesel)

8/5 Ludington Ladies Day
(Chris Nytko)

8/12 Ludington (Mark Bevans)

8/26 Manistee (Bob Paradise)

9/9 Grand Haven II (Ron Pal)

Check Your Label

Did you know that your mailing label includes the date your membership expires? The month and year your membership expires is below your name. If it's marked yellow, your membership may be close to expiring. Don't be disqualified from a tournament because you forgot to re-up. Regular memberships are still \$25, Senior \$10 and Lifetime \$150.

See Tom Moores at the regular meeting or send your check to the club post office box (1255 in Sterling Heights Mi. 48311-1255).

Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc.
P.O. Box 1255
Sterling Heights Mi. 48311-1255



Non-Profit Org.
P.O. Box 1255

Sterling
Heights, Mi.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

March 2006
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www.detroitsteelheaders.org

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Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc.
P.O. Box 1255
Sterling Heights, Mi.
48311-1255

Fishin' Tales



March 28 is Swap Meet

As always, the general meeting takes place at 7:30 P.M. at the St Pius K of C the hall at 6177 Chicago Rd. (east of Mound Rd., North of 13 Mile Rd.)- Warren.

The March regular member meeting will feature the **annual swap meet** for members. If you have rods, reels, lures, or other tackle you don't need, turn it into cash at the meeting. If you need something, check out the tables. Show up early (doors open at 7:00 p.m.) for the best selection or to set up.

FREE ANDE LINE at MARCH MEETING

The most important piece of fishing equipment you have is your line. If it fails nothing else matters. We often tout the need to put fresh line on your reels to start the season. So here's a terrific opportunity. The Detroit Steelheaders will spool up to 4 reels for free. We have purchased Ande clear, 20lb test. We also have a smaller spool of 15 lb test. Just bring your reels to the March member meeting. Please strip reels of old line prior to the meeting to make everything go faster. We are limiting it to four reels to be sure everyone gets some line. If there is line left over after everyone has filled four, we will fill additional reels.

FIRST TOURNAMENT St Joseph Sat, May 6th

It has been a long cold lonely winter and the Steelhead, Coho and Salmon are just waiting for the Detroit Steelheaders to descend on them the first weekend of May, in the harbor of St Joe, Mi. Last years outing had very low participation. This was due to the 12 footers in the harbor and 22 footers marked at the weather buoy. However, two brave soles ventured out, Outta Line and Blue Horizon. Congratulations to both teams for surviving. If you have never fished St Joseph please be sure to pick up the St Joes flyers at the next Detroit Steelheaders meeting. Dockage and the captains meeting will be held at the West Basin Marina. The captains meeting will be held at 5:30 a.m. with a tournament start at 6:30 a.m. There are a few new rules for the trolling tournaments and you should review them prior to the tournament. One of the new rules concerns additional points that may be given if the captain weighs in multiple species of fish. Lodging is plentiful at the I-94 exits (#30, 28 or 27) or in downtown ST. Joe

St Joe is a tough waterway to navigate and you really need to pay attention. When launching from the Municipal Ramp head directly across the river and hug the wall

until you pass the DNR launch then stay about 40 feet from the Benton Harbor side. If you choose not to, you will get stuck in the sand island or blow a prop on the stumps and trees. If you launch from the DNR ramp do not back the boat up to far because of hazard and proceed on same path as described from the municipal launch. After you pass the Wayne Street Bridge you are free and clear. If this is confusing to you, call me and I will fax you a self explanatory map (313-999-6717).

The set up should be typical of a spring fishery with body baits and spoons being the main choices. You should be able to get into some Coho, try a small orange dodger with a green fly off a planer board, half core or high off a rigger. Hot spots include working the color line from the river mouth down to the Cook nuclear plant, which is about 8 miles south. Other landmarks are the chalets and the "junk cars" south of the pier heads. Good luck and here is to a great trolling season.

For more information Call Tournament Director: Joe von Grabe (586) 293-7688 or Port Captain: Al Wiechert (313) 999-6717.

2006 Key Dates

Member meeting & Swap Meet -Mar. 28
 April 25 Member Meeting
 May 30 Member Meeting
 June 27 Member Meeting

UPCOMING MEETINGS

With the end of ice fishing season upon us, river fishing in full swing, and boat trolling season just around the corner, it is an exciting and busy time for Michigan fisherman. Boating and Sporting shows fill the weekends, and nights are spent sorting gear, writing "wish lists", and perusing the pages of tackle and boating catalogs. I expect the next few months DAS Meetings to be no less exciting.

On March 28th, we will have our Spring Swap Meet. Gather up all that old gear that you don't use and turn it into cash. There will be plenty of fishing and outdoor related items to haggle over. Following the Swap Meet, Jeff Oltersdorf, will give a presentation on Trolling for Lake Erie Walleye. Jeff has spent over 25 years fishing Lake Erie, and manufactures his own spoons that are widely used by the charter fleet on the lake. He plans to discuss crankbait and spoon presentations, equipment, and locations, as well as a Q & A session.

In April, Great Lakes tournament pro and editor of Great Lakes Angler Magazine, Dave Mull will be in to give a informative seminar on Great Lakes Salmon trolling. Dave will be fresh off the Fishing Show circuit and gearing up for Tournament season.

In May, we will again be having our Boat Rigging Show in the parking lot, where we will have a variety of Great Lakes trolling rigs setup, followed by a seminar by Craig MacPhee of SureStrike Cutbait Rigs and Larry Hartwick of Riviera Tackle. Craig and Larry will be talking about running cut bait, and how to best utilize cut bait rigs to catch great lakes salmon

In addition, there will be the regular monthly fishing

reports, tournament and outing discussion and results, raffles, and general camaraderie. General membership meetings are a great way to meet other fisherman from the area and get to know your fellow club members. Remember that you do not have to be a member to attend the meetings. Guests are always welcome. Bring a fishing buddy or a kid to a meeting. As always, if you have any ideas or suggestions for meetings, feel free to contact me at anytime. Hope to see everyone next month.

Jason Adam



NEW MEMBERSHIP DRIVE SIGN UP A MEMBER AND WIN!

The Detroit Area Steelheaders has announced a new membership drive, with an incentive for current members to sign up new members. Any current Detroit Area Steelheader in good standing, who brings in a new, paid member into the club, will receive an automatic 6 month extension on their current membership. New members will still receive all the benefits of club membership, as well as their new member pack. A member will get an additional six month extension for EACH additional new, paid member they bring in.

To ensure you receive your extension, please escort your new member to the membership table during a general membership meeting and inform the membership committee that you brought

the member in upon their sign-up. If you refer a member and you are not at the General Membership meeting with them, or they choose to sign up by mail, it is their responsibility to inform the membership committee of your referral. For an extension to be granted, the membership committee must be informed of the referral at or before the time of the new member's payment.

New members also receive a packet. This packet will include; one DAS 30th Anniversary silver streak spoon, two Michigan Squids or Flies, a DAS fishing towel, two DAS decals for your boat or truck, a DAS patch for your jacket or vest, and Michigan maps and brochures. This is with a paid \$25.00 one year membership, or a \$150.00 lifetime membership, paid by the April meeting.

The members of our club are what make us successful, and without YOU, it will be hard to reach our goals.

See you at the next meeting,

Tom Moores—Membership Director

LED LIGHTING

There's nothing worse than doing your pre-tow checklist, only to find a trailer light or turn signal burned out. Incandescent lights are inherently problematic and not particularly well suited to the marine environment. The answer is LED lighting. Light Emitting Diode (LED)'s are low current draw, waterproof, super bright lights, that will outlast an incandescent bulb 10 to 1.

There are replacement lights utilizing LEDs for almost every bulb and fixture on your boat and trailer. There are kits available for trailers that include a wiring harness, brake lights and turn signals. Accessory lights such as marker lights can be added as well. I have added LED "courtesy

lighting" under my gunnels and in my cabin, using red LED's, to use in the dark without impairing night-vision or draining the batteries down. LED's are compact and impervious to the elements, so they are perfect for harsh environments such as storage compartments and in the bilge. You can find replacement bulbs that will fit right in your existing navigational lighting and cabin fixtures.

Complete trailer kits start around \$50, with additional individual marker lights costing about \$6 each. Accessory lighting for the boat can range in cost and function. Most boating supply stores will carry LED lighting, but the selection will vary by store. Anyone with basic 12V DC electrical knowledge should have no problem completing most swaps or new installs. Remember to always use wire and connectors appropriate for the task, and fuse all circuits correctly for safety. For additional LED lighting discussion, visit the Boat Rigging forum at www.detroitsteelheaders.org



News letter raffle report

A way to add to your stash is by participating in the DAS Tackle Raffle and 50/50 drawings where we give away a fishing related item as a bonus prize.

The raffle table has had a wide array of prizes for the meetings. We gave away a set of folding camper chairs, lures and fishing rod. A high end ice rod, DAS sweat shirt and a pair of tip ups

CASH is up for grabs in the 50/50 as well as bonus prize.

We have a drawing to award the \$30.00 membership raffle. If the

person drawn is not at the meeting the \$30.00 goes back in the cookie jar where it will magically grow to \$40.00 for next month's raffle. Please make a point of saying hello to your new president Jason Adam and share any ideas you might have to help us improve the Detroit Area Steelheaders. Remember to visit our website and keep in contact with other club members through the use of our message board.

Remember, you can't win if you don't play, and you can't play if you are not present for the meetings. .Sincerely, Bob Jones

7th GAME DINNER

This year's game dinner was a huge success. The move to the American Polish Cultural Center gave us the room to comfortably accommodate more people. The result was attendance that approached 450.

There were raffles galore. 52 card gun raffles, \$1 general raffle, \$5 super raffle, 50/50 raffle and the popular Spoon raffle for a Mercury 15 h.p. 4-cycle outboard. In addition we had a silent auction for charters, a pheasant hunt, a smoked meat, wine and cheese basket and sports tickets.

Of course there was plenty of great food including sweet and sour pheasant, Red stag meat loaf, Buffalo chuck roast, Boar brats and Bourbon venison. A few pitchers of beer were also consumed.

A special thanks to Dinner Chairman Mark Bevens, to all of the board members and to the general members who worked hard to make this a success. Also special thanks to all of the sponsors who donated items for the raffles. Without everyone's support we could not have made this such a huge success

(Note: credit cards used at the dinner will show as El-Lin Charters on your statement)